

The authority formerly invested in Military District Command has been given considerably wider scope in the new Command organization. The five principal Commands are charged with complete military responsibility, under Army Headquarters, for all matters affecting their territorial areas and the command and administration of all troops within these areas.

Organization.—There is but one Canadian Army which includes all the Ground Forces of Canada. Service is on a voluntary basis. The organization of the Army provides for six component parts as follows:—

The Active Force.—The Active Force is available for General Service and comprises a Field Force, Coast and Anti-Aircraft Defence Units, Headquarters, Command and Area Staffs; also training, intercommunication, administration, research and development staffs, units and establishments, officers and men permanently employed but not borne on any regimental establishment.

The conditions for enlistment in the Active Force provide for men who were on Active Service in the Army during the Second World War, if they meet the physical requirements, have a Grade VIII education or the equivalent and are between 18 and 40 years of age. Young men are preferred. Men who were not on Active Service during the War may enlist if they meet the physical requirements, have a Grade X education or the equivalent and are between 18 and 25 years of age. Men qualified in a particular trade may be accepted up to the age of 35 years.

Officers of the Canadian Army come from three main sources: (1) graduates of the Canadian Services Colleges—Royal Roads at Esquimalt, B.C., and the Royal Military College at Kingston, Ont.; (2) the Canadian Officers Training Corps; (3) promotions from the ranks.

The Reserve Force.—The Reserve Force provides the basis for the organization of a field force in the event of emergency. It is employed on a part-time basis and subject to annual military training.

The Supplementary Reserve.—The Supplementary Reserve maintains lists of units and a list of individuals required in the event of mobilization to complete the organization of the Army. Such personnel will not be subject to, yet not precluded from, annual military training.

The Canadian Officers Training Corps.—The C.O.T.C. is the fourth element of the Canadian Army and responsible for training officer candidates during peace and war; personnel are subject to the same obligations in respect of military service as apply to other sections of the Army.

The Cadet Services of Canada.—Cadet Services are administered by commissioned officers of the Canadian Army, serving on a basis comparable to that of officers of the Reserve Force. These officers also handle training and are under direction of Active Force general staff officers at Command Headquarters. The peacetime reorganization of the Royal Canadian Army Cadet Corps has been completed. New regulations authorize a total of 50,000 Army Cadets across Canada. There are approximately 490 separate cadet corps functioning throughout the Dominion. All service is voluntary. Free uniforms are provided and the opportunity is extended annually to attend a summer camp in one of the five military Commands.

The Reserve Militia.—The Reserve Militia provides for units for home security duties which could not logically be performed by the Reserve Forces. Most prominent of Militia units is the corps of Canadian Rangers, organized in June, 1947.